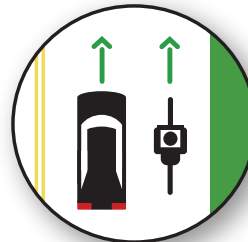


## Ride With Traffic

Under state law, bicyclists have all the same rights and responsibilities as drivers. Ride a bicycle like it is a vehicle. Bicycles are permitted on all roads, except when explicitly signed otherwise (such as on a freeway).

**Ride in the same direction as vehicle traffic, signal when making a turn, and stop for stop signs and red lights. Always pass on the left.**

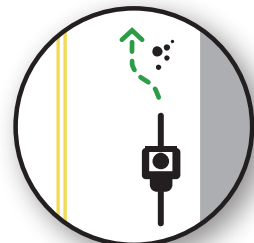


## Legal Rights

In general, you're required to ride in a bike lane whenever one is provided. For your safety and convenience, you can leave a bike lane under the following circumstances:

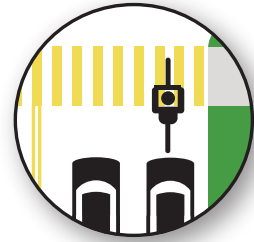
- When passing other bicyclists or vehicles
- When preparing to turn left
- To avoid debris, cracks, or other hazards
- Whenever you are traveling as fast or faster than other traffic
- Whenever you are approaching a place where right-turns are permitted, such as a cross-street, driveway, mall entrance, or alley

## Safe Riding Practices



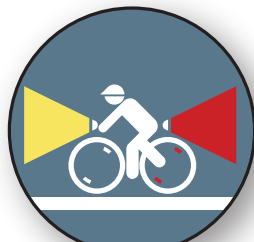
### Avoid Roadway Hazards

Watch out for loose gravel, slippery utility covers, oily pavement, and ice. Avoid cracks in the pavement and sewer grates as thin tires can get stuck in these. Cross railroad tracks at a right angle. For better control as you move across bumps and other hazards, stand up on your pedals.



### Ride Where You Are Most Visible

Stay out of blind spots of large vehicles. When approaching a driveway or cross-street, especially at high speeds, move to the left so that turning drivers can see you sooner. When traffic is stopped at a red light, move to the front of the intersection.



### Be Visible At Night

Use lights when you ride at night. You're required to use a white front light and a red rear reflector, at minimum. A red back light, bright clothing, and reflectors on your pedals and bags will make you even more visible.



### Protect Your Head

Helmets are required for all bicyclists, skateboarders, and in-line skaters under the age of 18. For people of all ages, a properly fitted helmet reduces the risk of head injury.

## Bikeway Types

When planning your trip, keep in mind the three types of bikeways shown on the map. Bikeways are designed to be safer and more pleasant to ride than the average street.



### Multi-Purpose Trail Path

A complete separated two-way right-of-way designated for bicyclists, pedestrians, skateboarders, and other people-powered modes of travel.



### Bike Lane

A striped lane for bike travel on a roadway. Motorists travel adjacent to bicyclists and may pass through the bike lane when making a turn.



### Bike Route

A street designated for bicycling where bicyclists and motorists share a lane.

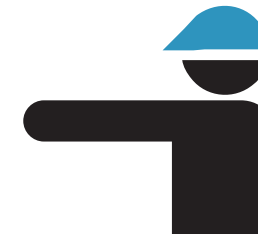
## Hand Signals

Hand signals tell motorists, other bicyclists, and pedestrians what you intend to do, and are required by law.



### Stop

Drop your left arm to a 45 degree angle from your bike.



### Left

Put your left arm straight out at your side.



### Right

Bend your left arm to make a 90 degree angle.

Put your right arm straight out at your side.

## Locking Your Bike

### Bicycle Parking Tips

Bicycle theft is a common problem. Never leave your bike unlocked, not even for a second! Always use a high quality U-Lock or chain.

Always lock the frame and front wheel to a secure rack or post, since wheels can often be easily removed from a bike (see Illustration 1). For extra security remove the front wheel and lock it with the frame and rear wheel (see Illustration 2).

When leaving your bike for long periods or overnight, bring your bicycle indoors or lock in a secure location. Remove components that could easily be stolen such as lights or speedometers.

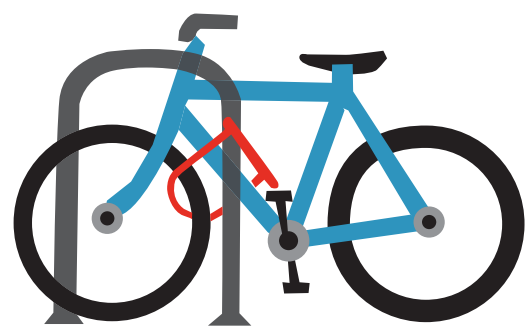
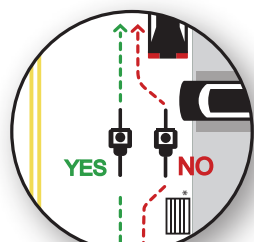


Illustration 1



Illustration 2

## Courteous Riding Practices



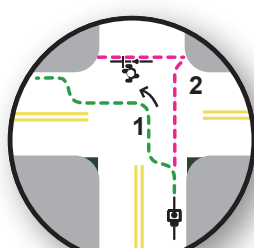
### Ride Predictably

Ride in a clean, smooth line as far to the right as is practical. Stay in through lanes when right-turn lanes appear. Use hand signals when changing lanes or moving to avoid hazards. Ride a door's length away from parked cars because doors can open suddenly. You may ride a safe distance from parked cars even if it means taking an entire travel lane. When a traffic lane is too narrow to share, bicycles are allowed full use of the lane.



### Share the Trail

Be courteous on bike paths and shared-use paths. Bicyclists and skateboarders should yield to pedestrians. Yield to slower users and children. Only pass on the left with adequate clearance, and use a bell or your voice to announce that you are passing.



### Two Ways to Make a Left Turn

- 1) Like a car: Look back, signal, move into the left lane, and turn left.
- 2) "Box Left." Like a pedestrian: Ride straight to the far side of the intersection, then cross in the crosswalk or queue up in the travel lane.

## The Bicycle and its Equipment

Before you ride, do an "ABC Quick Check."



### A is for AIR

Inflate tires to rated pressure as listed on the sidewall of the tire. Use a pressure gauge to ensure proper pressure.



### B is for BRAKES

Check that your brake pads are not worn too thin, that your brakes are not rubbing against your wheel or tire, and that your brake levers do not pull all the way down to your handlebars.



### C is for CRANKS AND CHAIN

Make sure your cranks (the arms to which your pedals are attached) are bolted tightly. Make sure your chain connects smoothly to your gears and doesn't skip.



### QUICK is for QUICK RELEASE LEVERS

Make sure any quick release levers are tight. They are usually found on your hubs (in the center of the wheel). You may also find them holding your seat post in place.



### CHECK is for CHECK IT OVER

Check the bike over for any loose or broken parts. Take it for a test ride to check braking and shifting.

Source: The League of American Bicyclists. For more information visit [www.bikeleague.org](http://www.bikeleague.org)

## Costa Mesa Bike Shops

Name	Address	Phone Number	Website	Hours
Sport Chalet	3333 Bear St	(714) 424-9255	<a href="http://www.sportchalet.com">www.sportchalet.com</a>	M-Sun 10-8
Mode Bikes	2930 Bristol St, Ste C201	(714) 982-6633	<a href="http://www.modebikes.net">www.modebikes.net</a>	W-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-6
My Beach Cruiser	1525 Mesa Verde Dr, Ste 114	(949) 870-9297	<a href="http://www.mybeachcruiser.com">www.mybeachcruiser.com</a>	M-F 11-6, Sat 11-5
Let it Roll	1785 Newport Blvd	(949) 645-8691		M-Sun 10-7
City Grounds	1810 Newport Blvd	(949) 200-7123	<a href="http://www.citygrounds.com">www.citygrounds.com</a>	M-Sat 11-7, Sun 11-6
Surf City Cyclery	257 E 17th St	(949) 646-1717	<a href="http://www.surfcitycyclery.com">www.surfcitycyclery.com</a>	M-F 10-7, Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5
Two Wheels One Planet	420 E 17th St	(949) 646-7717	<a href="http://www.twowheelsonplanet.com">www.twowheelsonplanet.com</a>	M-F 10-7, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5



## Government Resources

### City of Costa Mesa Recreation Division

To view the seasonal Recreation Guide for the City of Costa Mesa, as well as a map of Parks, Recreation, and Community Centers, visit [www.ci.costa-mesa.ca.us/CMRecreation.htm](http://www.ci.costa-mesa.ca.us/CMRecreation.htm) or contact the Recreation Manager at (714) 754-5300.

### City of Costa Mesa Public Services Department

To report cracks and potholes, and to request maintenance of streets, storm drains, signs, crosswalks, or pavement markings, call the Public Services Department at (714) 754-5323. To report traffic signal malfunctions, call (714) 754-5185.

### Police

If you have an emergency, call 911. If you want to report a crime, call the Costa Mesa Police Department at (714) 754-5281.

**City of Costa Mesa Website**  
[www.costamesa.gov](http://www.costamesa.gov)

## Related Resources

The OCTA Bikeways Map shows all of Orange County's existing bikeways, as well as the location of steep grades. It also lists the name and address of many of the bike shops in Orange County.

[www.octa.net/BikewaysMap.aspx](http://www.octa.net/BikewaysMap.aspx)

## Bicycle Advocacy Organizations

California Bicycle Coalition: [www.calbike.org](http://www.calbike.org)  
Orange County Bicycle Coalition: [www.ocbike.org](http://www.ocbike.org)

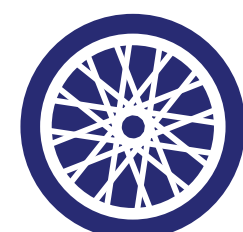
For more information on bicycling in Costa Mesa visit our website:

<http://www.costamesa.gov>

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter:

<http://www.facebook.com/CostaMesaCityHall>

<http://twitter.com/#!/cityofcostamesa>



**Costa Mesa**  
**BICYCLE MAP**  
AND  
**SAFETY GUIDE**